

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

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April, 1823.

COLLECTIONS,
Historical and Miscellaneous.

APRIL, 1823.

Topography.

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FOR THE LITERARY JOURNAL.

SKETCHES OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS.

THE White Mountains are situated in the northerly part of the state of New-Hampshire, and nearly in the centre of the county of Coos. The latitude of the highest peak is 44 deg. 30 m. north, or very near it. Every geographical writer in this country, and some beyond the Atlantic, have noticed these mountains; and all agree in assigning to them a greater altitude than to any in New-England, if not in the United States. Notwithstanding this acknowledged fact, no two authors agree in assigning to the White Mountains the same height. Had the variation between them been trifling, the public might have rested satisfied, or at least, have taken the accounts given by them as correct. But when they differ in the single circumstance of their altitude, more than three thousand feet, the public curiosity, instead of being gratified, is perplexed, and seeks for something approaching to certainty.

As to the causes of this difference, it is unnecessary to inquire. But it is believed to be out of the power of any person, to take the height of mountains correctly, especially such as the White Hills, without using a spirit or water level. This mode is so long, and generally so laborious, that but few persons have had the courage to undertake it. These difficulties notwithstanding, the heights of the White Mountains were so taken in August 1820, by John W. Weeks, Charles J. Stuart, Richard Eastman and Adino N. Brackett. To accomplish this undertaking, they spent seven days; and during five of them were attended by Amos Lyro, Joseph W. Brackett and Edward B. Moore. The whole party were from Lancaster.

The altitude of these mountains above low water mark in Connecticut river near the court house in Lancaster, with the names of the principal peaks will first be given, and then some sketches of the mountains themselves as they were presented to the eye, while taking their elevation.

Mount Washington rises above the river at the place before mentioned, ft. 5850

Above Austin's in Jefferson, 5450

Above Crawford's, the house nearest to the summit, 4781

This mountain is easily distinguished from the others, by its superior elevation, its being the southern of the three highest peaks, and other marks too apparent to need recital.

Mount Adams rises above the river at the same place to the height of 5383

It is known by its sharp terminating peak, and being the second north of Mount Washington.

Mount Jefferson, situated between the two first, rises 5281

Mount Madison, known by its being the eastern peak of the range, rises to the height of 5039

Mount Monroe, the first to the south of Mount Washington, rises 4932

Mount Franklin, known by its level surface, and being the second south of Mount Washington, 4470

Mount Pleasant, or Dome Mountain, known by its conical shape, and being the third south of Mount Washington, 4339

Blue pond, hereafter to be mentioned, situated at the southern base of Mount Washington, lies above the river 4578

The party before mentioned continued on and about the mountains five days ; and encamped on them four nights ; two of which were passed by them, without any other covering than the blankets which were borne along by their attendants ; and the jutting rocks with which the mountains abound. The rocks and damp moss also furnished their resting place, and the heavens their canopy. They passed the night following the 31st day of August 1820, within ten feet of the summit of Mt. Washington, an elevation above the plain of Lancaster of nearly six thousand feet. It is believed that no human being ever before passed a night there. Nor should we, had two of our party, who left the others to explore the northern peaks of the range, returned in season to enable us, before the commencement of darkness, to

descend the mountain. This, under the existing circumstances, could not be attempted without extreme hazard. The wind blew hard from the southward, and clouds, resembling the densest fogs of the plain, continually rolled over and surrounded us; which together with the rapid approach of night, rendered distinct vision even at a short distance impossible. During this cold, damp and dreary night, the wind shifted to the north-west, attended with rain, which forced a majority of the party from their resting places, to seek out new shelters from the inclemency of the weather, on the southern side of the precipice. Two of the party however remained stationary during the night, being protected, by a small cavern, formed by two jutting rocks, not from the wind only, but from the rain. This cavern is situated a little below, and northward of the highest eastern rock on the mountain; but it is too small to merit a more particular description. It may, however, hereafter afford shelter to persons, who here may be overtaken with storms; which are no less frequent than violent in these elevated regions. No fire can be had here for want of fuel, none existing short of 1200, or 1500 feet below.

The White Mountains are an unbroken chain, extending in a northern direction, from the Notch, a distance of more than eight miles, and presenting to the eye from the summit of Mt. Washington five principal peaks; and when viewed from many other places, four. They are surrounded on all sides by an immense forest, of course they cannot be accurately seen, except at a considerable distance from their base. To this remark an exception may be made, as from Durand, which lies directly under the northern termination of the mountains, a distinct view of Mt. Adams, in clear weather, may be had. But a view of the mountains themselves, and the country around, is by far the most interesting and sublime when the individual is seated on their highest pinnacle.

To attain this height, at the time we visited the mountains, the most eligible route was to turn to the eastward, from the tenth New-Hampshire turnpike, at a point four and a half miles to the south-eastward of Mr. Ethan A. Crawford's, and within about 50 rods from the northern entrance to the notch of the White Mountains. This point is eight and a half miles north-westward of Mr. Abel Crawford's, and two and a half from the Notch house, which last is the nearest building to the place of departure. Since that time, Mr. Ethan A. Crawford has cut out a path from near his house directly to the summit of Mt. Washington, which shortens

the distance several miles. This is also said to be the easier route. The last mentioned Mr. Crawford now resides where Capt. Rosebrook formerly lived, and where he died, who will long be remembered as the hardy and enterprising adventurer, sufficiently daring to establish himself on a frozen and unproductive soil, and in a rigorous climate, for the accommodation of the public. This place is 18 miles from Lancaster meeting house, and elevated 1000 feet above it. Immediately on leaving the turnpike, you commence the ascent of the mountain, following a foot path cut out by the Messrs. Crawfords. At the beginning of the ascent, the forest is thick and heavy, composed of birch, beech, spruce, fir and mountain ash, intermixed with other timber. After travelling a mile and a half, and ascending 1600 feet, you reach a camp which will shelter six or seven persons. Here the trees, which are principally spruce and fir, are of diminutive height, though at the root, the spruce grows to the size of a foot and a half in diameter. A good spring of water runs within six rods to the northward of the camp, which, to the traveller, weary and worn by the fatigue of the ascent, is very refreshing. The night is usually passed here; and at every season, a considerable fire is not only comfortable, but absolutely necessary to guard against the cold and moisture, both of the earth and atmosphere.

At early dawn the ascent is recommenced, and after travelling about three fourths of a mile, less steep, to be sure, than below the camp, the trees at every step diminishing in size and height; the path turns to the north of its former course and directly before you, a steep bald ridge is discovered, of about 20 feet elevation. This being ascended, you find yourself on nearly the summit of a mountain having no other vegetable covering than moss, a few cranberries and whortleberries, with here and there a spruce, fir, or white birch, which instead of rising above, spread their branches out along the moss and literally cling down to the surface, like purslain in a garden. Here a single step will carry you over an entire living tree, which has perhaps been growing, without increasing much in size, for ages.

The path from the camp upwards, passes along the edge of the mountain where it breaks off to the southward. Several interesting views are presented, by turning the eye in that direction, through the openings in the forest. The traveller should not be in too great haste; but should make frequent halts as well to recruit his exhausted spirits, as to enjoy the fine prospects, which every where surround him

at this elevation. If the faculties of the soul are not benumbed by imprudence, so striking are the prospects from many parts of the mountain, that an impression is made, the recollection of which will afford pleasure during the remainder of life.

From the bald summit just mentioned, to the base of Mt. Pleasant, there is no serious obstacle to travelling, except that the first part of the distance is considerably incumbered by a forest into which you descend soon after leaving it. Several ravines however must be crossed. They are neither wide nor deep, nor are they discovered at a great distance; for the trees fill them up exactly even with the mountain on each side, the branches of which interlock with each other in such a manner, that it is very difficult to pass through them and they are so stiff and thick as almost to support a man's weight.

Mount Pleasant, or Dome mountain, is easily ascended. At a distance the regularity of its shape renders it strikingly beautiful. It has long held out to the traveller strong attractions, nor does he on arriving at its summit experience any disappointment. Unlike some other objects, it does not appear most beautiful at a distance. Its top to the extent of five or six acres is sufficiently smooth for a parade. A little highest in the centre, it gradually slopes away in every direction. It even has a verdant appearance, as it is every where covered with short grass, which grows in little tufts to the height of four or five inches. Among these tufts mountain flowers are thinly scattered, which add life and beauty to the scene.

The attention for a moment is confined to the mountain itself. But all its beauties are insufficient long to detain the excursive eye, which directed to the northward is instantly caught by the towering majesty of Mt. Washington, the hoary head of which often reposes under a canopy of clouds. A little short of that mountain the sharp and jutting precipices of Mt. Monroe appear, the most eastern of which is highest, and in that direction the latter mountain, terminates most abruptly. To the north-westward the settlements in Jefferson are seen; to the west, the courses of the Amonoosuck, as though delineated on a map—Ethan A. Crawford's, and further off, Bethlehem. South-westward, Moosehillock and the great Haystack are plainly discovered; and nearly due south, Chocorua peak; south-easterly, Mr. Abel Crawford's and the settlements and mountains in Bartlett. To the east naught is beheld but dark mountains and gloomy forests.

The descent from Mt. Pleasant is at first gradual, but as you advance it grows more steep until at last it terminates almost perpendicularly at Red pond. This is a small patch of water, two or three rods in diameter, surrounded on all sides by long reddish moss. The water is tolerably clear, but its taste is disagreeable, owing in the dry season, to its having no outlet on the surface. In heavy rains, and when the snow dissolves, it discharges both east and west, forming the head to one of the branches of the Saco, and to one of the Amonoosuck. After leaving this pond, no permanent water is to be found, till you reach the southern base of Mt. Washington.

The ascent from this pond to Mt. Franklin is gradual, and its summit is easily gained. It resembles in many respects that of Mt. Pleasant, but is more level, having only a trifling slope to the northward. From this place the highest part of the ridge lies a little to the east of the route usually travelled, which is all along northwardly; in a direction to carry you between the craggy precipices of Mt. Monroe. Before arriving at the base of this mountain, the ridge, which before had considerable width, is suddenly contracted to three or four rods; and both at the right and left, gulfs are presented to the eye of the depth of two or three thousand feet. The view to the eastward is the most striking. You advance cautiously along to the eastern edge of the ridge, and look, not without an emotion of terror, down into the abyss below.

The shortest and easiest route from Mount Franklin to Blue pond is between the pinnacles of Mount Monroe. But that which should be chosen, leads directly over the top of the eastern summit of this mountain. For the additional labor, the traveller will receive ample compensation, from an inspection of the rugged singularities of the mountain itself, and the noble prospects presented from its superior elevation to any mountains heretofore passed. With propriety it may be remarked, that all things considered, the better outward course is to travel over the highest ridges. The distance is not much increased, and much more of the mountains and of the country around is to be seen.

Whether you pass between the precipices of Mt. Monroe, or ascend the eastern one, the descent to Blue pond is considerable. Here is a fine resting place at the eastern margin of a beautiful sheet of water, of an oval form, perfectly transparent, which covers more than three fourths of an acre. The waters of this pool are cool and pleasant to the

taste, and so deep that the bottom cannot be seen in its centre, from either shore. Not a living creature is to be seen in the waters, at this height on the hills; nor do vegetables of any kind grow in or around them, to obscure the clear rocky or gravelly bottom on which they rest. A small spring discharges itself into this pond at its southeast angle. Another, two thirds the size of Blue pond, lies to the northwest of it, which is much shallower and less pleasant than the one first described. They do not communicate with each other, but both discharge their surplus waters to the westward, and form the northeast heads of the Amonoosuck.

Directly before you rises the lofty, the majestic, and the regular dome of Mount Washington, variegated with the various hues of bright green, pure white, and light and dark brown. The summit is up a distance of more than half a mile; and elevated more than twelve hundred feet above the surface of Blue pond. In travelling over this distance, you have to pass enormous masses of loose stones, which in some places are covered with moss, and in others with small patches of grass. It is found easier to travel over the masses of stones, principally granite, intermingled with pure quartz, which, instead of being worn smooth, are left by the action of winds and rain so rough, that there can be no danger of slipping, than over the grass and moss, which, though they appear beautiful to the eye, and easily travelled over, yet yield to your weight and add to the fatigues of the ascent. A walk of half an hour will, however, carry you from Blue pond to the summit of the noble mountain, distinguished by the name of Washington.

Here the sharp terminations of mountains, deep rivers and rolling clouds at once catch the eye and direct attention. The faculties of the beholder seem, for a moment, distracted. The very mountains which have been passed are not readily recognized. Though the mind soon subsides to calmness, yet it is awed by the sublime and solemn grandeur of the scenery around. At the northward the cone-like precipice of Mount Adams appears; between which and the lofty height on which you stand, the more obtuse summit of Mount Jefferson is situated. To the eastward of Mount Adams, and a little detached from the range, stands, as it were in defiance, Mount Madison, "which first receives and repels the eastern storms."

The dome of Mount Washington is supported on every side except the west, by a stupendous base. On its northern side, it is supported and bounded by the high ridge

which extends to Mount Jefferson; on the northeast by a large grassy plain, which terminates in a vast spur extending far away in that direction; on the east by a large projecting promontory, which breaks off abruptly, or rather hangs over these fine ponds, at St. Anthony's Nose; on the south and southeast it is skirted and supported by Carrigain's lawn, a beautiful grassy plain, in summer, of more than forty acres. At the southeastern extremity of this plain, a ridge commences, which slopes gracefully away towards the vale of the Saco; upon which, at short distances from each other, arise rocks, resembling, in some places, towers; in others representing the various orders of architecture. From St. Anthony's Nose, and between it and this ridge, is to be seen a most elegant cascade, which descends perpendicularly a hundred feet, and probably more, as, before it strikes the lower shelf, the water is broken into mist or fine rain.

These mountains every where present a primitive character. They have probably exhibited the same unvarying aspect for ages. Nothing volcanic, nothing of secondary formation has yet been discovered by the most diligent research. These mountains have remained the same, while the kingdoms and empires of the world, have undergone the various changes of infancy, of mature age, and of decay. Unlike some mountains in the old world; and others in the new: such as *Ætna*, *Vesuvius* and *Teneriffe* in the former, and *Cotopaxi* and *Terra del Fuego* in the latter; all of which are evidently of volcanic origin: the White Mountains are now such as they came from the hand of their Creator; venerable from their age, and sublime from their elevation.

The tops of these mountains are condemned to eternal sterility. They rise too high to sustain vegetable life. Yet a kind of grass is to be found almost on their highest point; and long moss spreads over a considerable part of their sides and summits. This is constantly so damp as to prevent fire from running among it, even in the driest seasons. In the driest part of the warm and parching summer of 1820, in the middle of the day, such was the humidity of the moss, that the moisture it retained, would strike through the clothes of those who sat down upon it, in 15 or 20 minutes. But notwithstanding their sterility, they are of much importance to the community. Here some of the finest rivers in New-England originate. From these hills, wealth and fertility are diffused to five states; Maine, New-Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Nearly all the wa-

ters of the Saco flow from the eastern sides of the White Mountains, Peabody river and other considerable branches of the Ameriscoggin from their northern end, Israel's river and Amonoosuck from their western sides, and Pemigewasset from their southern end. The latter river has its eastern fountain very near the notch or pass through the mountains.

The folly of system-making is no where so forcibly exhibited as in a tour to these mountains. We had been taught that on reaching a certain height, vegetation uniformly ceases; that the region of perpetual congelation is fixed with perfect certainty; and that in the latitude of the White Mountains, it hardly reaches 7800 feet above the level of the ocean. Such, however, is not the fact, as is demonstrated by an inspection of the various mountains, which form the immense chain of the White Hills. On the western sides of these mountains vegetation uniformly rises higher than on the eastern; and where the mass of elevated matter is greatest, there vegetation rises highest. The whole country on the western side is much more elevated than on the eastern. Hence the difference in the extent of vegetable life on that side. But it is not intended to philosophise. To state facts, is the object of these sketches; one of which is justly said to be worth a thousand theories.

These hills were visited on the last day of July; and again on the last day of August, 1820. A frost had killed the grass, and all other tender vegetables which grew upon them, during the time which had elapsed between the two visits.

Over these mountains are scattered a variety of berries; such as cranberries, whortleberries and several other kinds; some of which were never before seen by any of the party. They grow high up the mountains; and some of them far above any other vegetable, except grass and moss. Their flavor is, however, very different from those of the plain. Even the whortleberry which grows on these hills, has, in its ripest state, considerable acidity.

The vicissitudes of sunshine and shade are here very frequent. Not exactly like the shadows flying over the plain; for here the individual is actually enveloped in the cloud; while there it only passes over him. The cloud is discovered at a considerable distance rolling along on the surface of the mountain; it approaches you rapidly; in an instant it encircles you; and as soon passes away to be followed by others in endless succession. These phenomena are presented only when the clouds are light and scattered. When

they are surcharged with rain, even at mid-day, all is darkness and gloom.

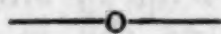
Although the waters of these hills apparently give life to no animal or insect, yet in the heat of summer, the black fly, a little tormenting insect, is very troublesome. At the same time, the grasshopper is here as gay as on the finely cultivated field. The swallow too appears to hold his flight as high over these mountains as over the plain. It is however a place of extreme solitude: The eye often wanders in vain to catch something that has life and animation. Yet a bear has been known to rise up, even in this solitude, to excite and to terrify the traveller.

On an examination of these mountains, the following remarks will be found true. The rivers which flow from their western sides run a course at nearly right angles with their general direction; while those which have their sources on the eastern sides of the mountains, after rushing down in cataracts to their base, take a direction parallel with the mountains. Thus the whole eastern base of them is washed either by the Peabody river, which falls into the Ameriscoggin in Shelburne; or by Ellis' river, which falls into the Saco in Bartlett. Both these rivers are remarkably rapid soon after they leave the mountains' side; descending, it is believed, a hundred feet in a mile.

These hills present another object, though not of the most sublime character; yet one which cannot fail to attract the attention of the most inattentive observer. It is the great number of dead trees, if such deformed dwarfs may so be called, which on the sides of some of the mountains, spread over several acres. From different persons of the same party they received different names. Some called them buck's horns, and others bleached bones. The winds and weather have rendered them perfectly white; and as neither the stem or branches take any definite direction, they are of all the diversified forms, which nature in her freaks can create. The cold seasons which prevailed from 1812 to the end of 1816, probably occasioned the death of these trees; and their constant exposure to the fierce winds which prevail on the mountains, has, aided by other causes, rendered them white. It can hardly be doubted that, during the whole of the year 1816, these trees continued frozen; and frost, like fire, is capable of extinguishing life, even in the vegetable kingdom. Fire could not have caused the death of these trees; for fire will not spread here, in consequence of the humidity of the whole region at this elevation. Young

live trees were again showing themselves on the top of the moss in 1820. This fact tends to confirm the accuracy of the above opinion.

Another view of the mountains ought to be given: their appearance and the country around at sunrise. The extreme difficulty in doing justice to this part of the subject, almost forbids the attempt. In the language of the eloquent Brydone, "The whole eastern horizon is gradually lighted up." The sun's first golden ray, as he emerges from the ocean, strikes the eye, and sheds a glimmering but uncertain light; but soon his broad disk diffuses light and beauty, first on the hills, and soon over the whole region eastward. The sides of the mountains fronting him appear like a solid mass of gold dazzling by its brightness. While this process is going on to the eastward, the whole country to the westward is shrouded with darkness and gloom. The eye turns away disgusted, from this comfortless scene, to the gay and varied one to the eastward. If this prospect is beheld immediately after a rain, the tops of a thousand hills rise above the fogs, appearing like so many islands in the midst of a mighty ocean. As these mists clear away, the houses, the villages, and the verdant fields within the circle of vision, arise to view. At the moment of the sun's rising, the noble vale of the Connecticut, which stretches along from the north, till it is lost among the hills at the southwest, appears like an inland sea. This is occasioned by the vapors which had ascended from the river during the night. As the sun advances in his course, these vapors are chased away by his rays, and the farms in Jefferson, Bethlehem, and Lancaster, with its village, appear as if rising by magic, from what but a little time before seemed nothing but water. The various hills, in the mean time, which surround the mountains, appear to be arranged in many concentric circles; and the circle the farthest removed seems the highest and the least distinct, giving to the whole an air of order and grandeur, beyond the power of description. B.



Comparison of the miles of different countries.

English statute mile	1	or 69.36 to a°	Eng. & Fr. marine lea.	3.46	or 20.00
Turkish	1.04	or 66.67	Dutch	3.65	or 10.00
English geo. mile	1.16	or 60.00	German	4.62	or 15.00
Italian	1.16	or 50.00	Danish	4.69	or 14.79
Arabian	1.22	or 56.40	Hungarian	5.78	or 12.00
Irish	1.25	or 55.50	French myrmiametre	6.23	or 11.11
Scotch	1.39	or 49.75	Swedish	6.65	or 10.41
Old French league	2.77	or 25.00			[N. A. Review.
Spanish and Polish	3.41	or 20.23			

History and Biography.

FOR THE MONTHLY LITERARY JOURNAL.

An account of the "Strong Box" taken from Ralle the Jesuit, at Norridgewock in 1721; and a short biographical notice of Ralle.

It appears from Belknap, Hutchinson and other authors, that an attempt was made by Col. Westbrook and his troops in 1721 to seize Sebastien Ralle,* the French Priest, who resided at Norridgewock.† They arrived at the village undiscovered, but before they could surround his house, he escaped into the woods, leaving his papers in his "Strong Box," which was taken by Westbrook and brought off. Among these papers were his letters of correspondence with the Marquis de Vaudreuil, Governor of Canada, by which it appeared that the Governor was deeply engaged in exciting the Indians to a rupture with the English, and had promised to assist them, notwithstanding his many assertions to the contrary. It contained also a dictionary of the Abenagues language, which has been deposited in the library of Harvard College; and a number of his letters which have been deposited in the library of the Mass. Historical Society.

The construction of this box is very curious. It contains a secret drawer, which is so contrived that it is with difficulty any one can obtain access to it, without destroying the box, unless they have been made acquainted with the manner of opening it. The very inspection of the box impresses one with the idea that whoever was the means of its construction, had a particular view to the security of papers from the search of their enemies. It is well known that the British and French courts, at this time, were rivals in making partisans among the Indians, each to their own political cause, and this through the medium of religion as well as by all other artifices. Ralle, it appears, was an artful and cunning man, and his labors had been crowned with unusual success. This box, then, from its singular construction, was probably intended to enable the missionary to pass from tribe to tribe, of the Indians, with more safety to such papers as were of importance to be kept secret from the English in case of any accident, who also were attempting at this time to bring over the eastern Indians to their own po-

*This Priest has been called Ralle, Rale, and Rasles. The former has been used by Belknap.

†This river was formerly called Nanrantsouak, Norridgewalk, Norridgewock, and at present it is called Kennebec.

litical views. It is probable that Ralle carried this box slung to his back. It appears also reasonable to suppose, that, as it was a light article he could easily escape with it under a variety of difficult circumstances when pursued by his enemies, whether English or Indians, and when personal safety required it, he could drop the box, run and summon his nearest friends, who would naturally proceed to the spot and protect or recover it. Ralle was a native of France, and came over to Canada in October, 1689. He learnt the Abenagues language and resided in their village, situated near Quebeck in the midst of a forest, and he travelled about among many of the tribes, accustoming himself to their habits and manners; and although most acquainted with the language of the Abenagues, he was well acquainted with that of many other tribes, and by associating with, and living in the same savage manner, he became a powerful man among the Indians. They looked up to him, not only in their devotional services, but in every transaction of life, and so great were their respect and belief in the efficacy of his prayers and ceremonies, that one of their chief sachems, on being asked, "Wherefore it was that they were so much bigotted to the French, considering their traffick with them was not so advantageous as with the English?" gravely replied, that "The *Friars* taught them to pray to *their God*, which the English never did."

Ralle was regarded by the governments of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire as the principal instigator of the depredations committed by the Indians, and it was thought that if "he could be taken off, they would be quiet." It was proposed at one time to send the sheriff of York county with a posse of 150 men to seize and bring him to Boston; but this was not agreed to, and he continued to use all his exertions and influence during the summer of 1720 to extirpate the English who had settled in that part of the country. He appeared among the Indians at a conference held on Arrowsic Island, with the commander of the garrison there, and he brought a letter written in the name of the several tribes of Indians directed to Gov. Shute, in which it was declared, that "if the English did not remove in three weeks, they would kill them and their cattle and burn their houses." The "government, loth to come to a rupture, and desirous if possible to treat with the Indians separately from the French emissaries, invited them to another conference, which they treated with neglect."

In the winter of 1721, Col. Westbrook was ordered to Norridgewock; but Ralle evaded him, and he returned with

the Box only, as before mentioned. The Indians were highly enraged at this attempt to seize their spiritual father, and it could not long be unrevenged. The next summer an open war broke out, which was considered one of the most bloody and cruel wars that had hitherto been fought with the Indians. This war was called "Lovewell's war," on account of the battle and tragical death of Capt. Lovewell, and his comrades.*

The letters taken by Col. Westbrook were of great service to the country, as they were made use of by Col. Atkinson, of N. H., and Messrs. Dudley and Thaxter of Mass., as commissioners to Canada, for the purpose of remonstrating with the Governor for the part he acted in the war, "whose conduct was considered a flagrant breach of the treaty of peace subsisting between the crowns of England and France;" and upon his denying that he had encouraged or assisted the Indians for the purpose of carrying on the war, the commissioners produced to his great mortification, among other papers, his original letters to the Jesuit Ralle, which had been taken at Norridgewock, and in which the evidence of his having assisted them in the war was "too flagrant to admit of palliation." The good effects of this mission were soon visible, for a short time after, two Indians who had been detained as prisoners during the war, and were allowed to visit their countrymen "on their own parole," soon returned with a request for peace, which was ratified at Falmouth the ensuing spring.

During this war the Indians lost their favorite Priest.— "On the 12th August, 1724, O. S. Captains Moulton and Harmon, each at the head of a company of 100 men, were ordered to Norridgewock for the purpose of destroying that village, and killing Ralle; they executed their orders with great address. They completely invested and surprised the village, killed the obnoxious Jesuit with about 80 of his Indians, recovered three captives, destroyed the Chapel, and brought away the plate and furniture of the altar and the devotional flag as trophies of their victory. "Mons. Ralle was killed and scalpt in this engagement, who was a bloody incendiary and instrumental to most of the mischiefs done us, by preaching up the doctrine of meriting salvation by the destruction of hereticks. Some say that quarter was offered him, which he refused, and would neither give nor take any."

*See an account of Lovewell's fight, Vol. I. Historical Collections.

There have been many aspersions of the character of Ralle. For him, however, "to have taken such long journeys through a rugged wilderness without shelter or comfortable repose by night, with incessant fatigue by day, and to have endured such privations and hardships as he did in discharging the offices of his sacred mission, must extort the admiration of all."*

The "Strong Box" is in the possession of a family of the fourth generation from Col. Westbrook, who was "one of his Majesty's Council for New-Hampshire and commander of the eastern forces." W.

[There is some difference between American and French historians in relating the particulars of this contest. It may be proper to insert from the Collections of the Mass. Hist. Soc. an abridged recital of the fate of Father Ralle, as given by Father DE LA CHASSE, superior general of the missions to New France.—*Editors.*]

"On the 23d of August, [O. S. 12th,] 1724, eleven hundred men came to *Narrantsouak*. In consequence of the thickets with which the village was surrounded, and the little care taken by the inhabitants to prevent a surprise, the invaders were not discovered until the very instant they made a discharge of their guns, and their shot had penetrated the Indian wigwams. There were not above fifty fighting men in the village. These took to their arms and ran out in confusion, not with expectation of defending the place against an enemy already in possession, but to favor the escape of their wives, their old men and children, and to give them time to gain the other side of the river, of which the English had not then possessed themselves.

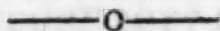
"The noise and tumult gave Father Ralle notice of the danger his converts were in. Not intimidated, he went out to meet the assailants, in hopes to draw all their attention to himself and secure his flock at the peril of his own life. He was not disappointed. As soon as he appeared, the English set up a shout, which was followed by a shower of shot, and he fell near a cross, which he had erected near the middle of the village, and with him seven Indians who had accompanied him to shelter him with their own bodies.—The Indians, in the greatest consternation at his death, immediately took to flight, and crossed the river, some by fording, others by swimming. The enemy pursued them until they entered

*Penballow.

far into the woods; and then returned, and pillaged and burnt the church and the wigwams. Notwithstanding so many shot had been fired, only thirty of the Indians were slain, and fourteen wounded. After having accomplished their object, the English withdrew with such precipitation that it seemed rather a flight than a victory.

"When the fugitive Indians came back to their village, they made it their first care to weep over the body of their beloved priest; whom they found shot through in many places, scalped, and terribly mangled. After kissing the bloody corse, they buried him by the place where the altar stood before the church was burnt."

The character of Father Ralle, it would seem, has been greatly misrepresented. Influenced by the prejudices which our fathers cherished against the Roman Catholics, and by the spirit of hostility against the aboriginals, the earlier historians of our country have transmitted to posterity, aspersions which appear to be unfounded, and which subsequent writers have adopted without sufficient examination. For a vindication of the character of Father Ralle, from several serious charges, the reader is referred to the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, vol. viii. second series, pages 256, 257.



BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF PERSONS IN NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

CHARACTER OF HON. ROBERT MEANS.

[From a Sermon delivered at Amherst, Feb. 2, 1823.]

[The Editors, wishing to give a more extended notice of the late Hon. ROBERT MEANS, than that contained in the Journal for February, solicited the following extracts for publication in the present number. Their obligations are due to the Rev. gentleman who has been so good as to comply with their request, and who yields his private wishes to the interest which the public claims in the character of one so much esteemed by the citizens of New-Hampshire.]

It is due to the memory of the just, to call them blessed. It is due to the church of God, to hold up examples of consistent piety and integrity. It is due to the community, to commend the characters of such as have been its supports

and ornaments. Not many go down to the grave, whose decease is regarded as a material loss or injury to society. Individuals are, indeed, frequently removed, who were justly valued, and are now deeply lamented, in the respective circles of their acquaintance. But, from many circumstances, their lives were not specially promotive of the general interests, and their death does not seem to diminish aught from the common good. It occasions no convulsion; it leaves no chasm. It is like the sinking of a heavy substance in the waters, which presently return to their equilibrium, and roll on as if they had never been disturbed. Such, however, is not the decease of our venerable friend. A strong rod is broken and withered. An injury is inflicted upon the community, which may not be easily repaired. It becomes us to treasure up the remembrance of his worth, that, since we shall no longer enjoy the benefits of his life, the conviction of our loss may produce a deeper sense of our responsibilities, may enhance, in our estimation, the value, and excite us to promote the interests of that religion, whose rewards, we trust, he is enjoying in a better world.

Col. Means was a rare example of what native good sense, a principle of piety, and consistent habits of uprightness will secure to an individual, without any of those accidental privileges and accomplishments, to which so many owe the standing and influence which they attain. He emigrated to this country from the north of Ireland in 1764, being then at the age of twenty-two years; without education, without property, or patronage, or prospects; and having no other recommendations than the certificate of his pastor, and the deportment of a serious, honest and industrious man. He committed himself to the guidance of Providence, and followed the hand that led him, residing occasionally in different parts of New-England, till he became an inhabitant of this town in 1774. Here he soon fixed a permanent residence, and entered into the marriage relation,* which

*Madam Means is daughter of the Rev. David McGregore, formerly pastor of the presbyterian church in the west parish of Londonderry. To this church Col. Means transferred his relation from the church in Ballygoney, Stewartstown, Ireland, and remained in connection with it, generally attending the semi-annual sacraments, till he was received, with Mrs. Means, to the church in Amherst, in 1817. Col. Means left two sons and three daughters. His sons reside in Amherst. The daughters were married to Hon. Jeremiah Mason, LL. D. of Portsmouth; Rev. Jesse Appleton, D. D., President of Bowdoin College; and Hon. Caleb Ellis, of Claremont, judge of the Supreme Court of N. H. A brother of Col. Means, at the age of 78, is now in the active duties of the ministry in the north of Ireland.

subsisted most happily and honorably till his death. Here, in the various relations of life, he adorned the doctrine which he had professed in his youth. Here, in an unbroken course of diligence and integrity, for almost half a century, he rose to wealth, and usefulness and honor; and here, at length, in the hope of the gospel, with *his tabernacle in peace, his children as the grass of the earth, he has come to his grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season.*

We notice in his life no variety of striking incidents. He pursued the same round of occupation, assiduously discharging the same recurring duties. He was governed throughout by a principle of sincere piety. Educated in the presbyterian religion, he became, in his youth, impressed with the great truths of christianity, as set forth in the Westminster manual, and made profession of his faith and hope in Christ. About sixty years he walked, without blame, in the ordinances of the gospel. He lived in the practical fear and love of God. He dwelt in the secret place of the Most High, and abode under the shadow of the Almighty. Immediately after his arrival in this country, he, with two relatives, who had been companions of his voyage, and with one of whom he was afterwards associated in business, devoted a day to solemn fasting and prayer for the direction and blessing of God, in view of their being *strangers in a strange land.* Through life his devotional habits were maintained, and he was enabled, till a few days before his death, to discharge the duties of family religion.

He was a just man, of undeviating honesty and truth, exact in his dealings, performing justice to others, and requiring it with the same strictness, of them. In his commercial transactions he wanted no indulgence, and considered the asking and the granting of it, in most cases, injurious to morality. If, on this account, he was at any time considered *a hard man*, yet, out of the course of business, or when the occasion called, he evinced peculiar tenderness and benevolence. His charities were abundant to the poor, and to the various religious enterprises which distinguish the present period of the church.—He had no asperities; and this rare and honorable testimony is borne him, that he almost never uttered a harsh or angry word; or, if such an expression at any moment escaped him, it was immediately succeeded by an ingenuous reparation and a tenfold kindness. He afforded an instructive specimen of conjugal and parental affection. He rejoiced with his family and caused their hearts to rejoice with him. He enlivened the domestic and

social circle by his pleasantry, and chastened it by his sobriety. His household, his friends, safely trusted him, and he was always strengthening his hold upon their respect and love. He was always left with reluctance and met with congratulation.

In all his characteristics he was uniform and consistent. He did not exhibit himself for occasions, but was always and in all circumstances the same. He did not sacrifice one duty to another, nor overact to-day, to compensate for the deficiencies of yesterday, or provide for the indulgence of to-morrow. He was not always employed, yet accomplishing nothing; nor did he make his plans, his means, and his labors disproportionate. His principles were sound and unalterable; he had proved them by long experience; and there was a happy correspondence between his principles and his habits. It was easy for one who knew him to judge how he would act in the various circumstances or exigencies of life, and no one ever thought of turning him from the purpose which he had deliberately formed. He had a way peculiar to himself even of doing good, and if he has not performed a desirable service exactly as you had wished, when it was presented to his mind, you had only to be patient for a while, and the result has been even better than your hopes.

Till the last year of his life he had enjoyed almost uninterrupted health. But within that time he labored under various infirmities, in consequence of a severe attack of fever, and waited in the attitude of expectation and hope for the event of death. His end, like the tenor of his life, was peaceful. He was, indeed, frequently depressed by the conviction of his own sinfulness. He confessed and deplored with tears of contrition his native unholiness and his manifold transgressions. But confidence in the atoning sacrifice and righteousness of Christ prevailed. Like his valued son-in-law,* whose early death the friends of religion and learning will long deplore, "he fled with his whole soul to the blood of a crucified Savior." To one, on the day of his decease, remarking on his infirmities and the pains of death, he attempted to reply, in the words of the Apostle, *these light afflictions, which are but for a moment*—but he could give no farther utterance. We trust that he now enjoys what he was then unable to express, *a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory*. In this confidence, together with

*The late President Appleton, of Bowdoin College. See his biog.

the reflection of his protracted and useful life, his relatives and friends find strong consolation, and a new motive is addressed to them, and to us all, to follow *the path of the just, which, as the rising light, shineth more and more unto the perfect day.*

Suffering this Divine rebuke, let us still take occasion to remark, that however calamitous the decease of good and useful men may seem to their friends and to society, it is often overruled, in the Providence of God, to the furtherance of those interests, which, for the present, it seems only to depress. There are, in every mind, energies, which wait only for a suitable occasion, or excitement to be called forth in useful action. There is, in all good men, a principle of holiness and benevolence, and a corresponding feeling of responsibility both to God and man, which becomes more and more developed, as circumstances conspire to promote its influence. These energies, this principle in many remain comparatively inactive, in the ordinary state of society. But when this state is altered, when the face of society and the church of God changes, when those on whom we had leaned are taken away, and the labor which they sustained devolves on us, the hidden vigor of the soul is awakened, and each one is impelled to new exertion, that he may repair in some measure, the injury which has been received. And although it may be, no single arm can accomplish what had been done by those who are now at rest, the combined strength of many, whom the exigency brings forward to the public service, may avail even to give a new and more favorable impulse to the community. How often it has thus happened, that the consideration of our increased responsibilities excited by afflictive events of Providence, and the contemplation of those, whose exemplary usefulness we did not fully appreciate till we no longer enjoyed it, has urged us to a redoubled diligence in the duties of our several professions, and God has then vindicated the rule of his Providence *to bring good out of evil, and light out of darkness.* It is true specially with regard to the affairs of Zion, that what things have seemed most threatening to her interests, have presently resulted in her enlargement and prosperity. In the absence of human succor, Jehovah has interposed his almighty arm. He has accepted the sorrows and humiliation of his people, and their prayers have had power to procure his sovereign help, when *the godly man has ceased and the faithful have failed from among the children of men.* In this confidence, we may still rejoice in this, and in every season of

affliction and tribulation. *The Lord God Omnipotent reigneth: clouds and darkness are round about him, righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne. The Lord is the Hope of Israel, the Savior thereof in the time of trouble. Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things; and blessed be his glorious name forever and ever, and let the whole earth be filled with his glory.*

WILLIAM WENTWORTH.

The name of WENTWORTH is one of the most ancient and respectable names in New-Hampshire. Even in England, it has claims to a remote antiquity, being found in the Doomsday Book, compiled by order of William the Conqueror, and first of the Norman Kings. It is there written *Wenteworde*. The first person in New-England of the name was WILLIAM WENTWORTH, who was one of the first settlers at Exeter, where he remained till after the dissolution of their form of government. He then removed to Dover, and became a ruling elder of the church there. In 1689, he was remarkably instrumental in saving Heard's garrison, when the Indians attacked that place and destroyed so many lives. See Belknap, vol. i, p. 200. After this, he was a preacher at Exeter and other places, several years. He died at an advanced age in Dover in 1697, and is pronounced by our historian to have been "a very useful and good man." His son Samuel Wentworth was the father of Lieut. Gov. John Wentworth, who was born at Portsmouth January 16, 1671; died Dec. 12, 1730, aged 59.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN.

This gentleman was of Welch extraction and bred in London under Sir Josiah Child, who had a great regard for him, and whose interest he made use of for the good of the province. He came to this country prior to 1668, and engaged in a mercantile profession, in which he accumulated a large property. He married Margaret Cutts, probably a sister of the President's, on the 3d December, 1668. He had two sons and five daughters. George, his second son, graduated at Harvard College in 1696, and was appointed lieutenant governor of his native province in 1715. In 1680, Major Vaughan was appointed one of the council under the administration of President Cutts, and continued in that office till 1683, when he was thrust out by Gov. Cranfield for his non-compliance with some arbitrary measures. When suits were instituted by Mason, in 1683, against all the principal landholders in the province, and juries were found to

decide them in his favor, Major Vaughan was the only one who appealed to the King. Major Vaughan experienced much ill usage from the governors of the province, and suffered much in the cause of his country. He died in the year 1719.

SAMUEL PENHALLOW.

The respectable name of Penhallow appears among the early names of Portsmouth. The one affixed to this article, is known as the author of a narrative of the Wars with the eastern Indians, from 1703 to 1726. The work, though in some particulars erroneous, is valuable, and is frequently cited by Dr. Belknap in his history of New-Hampshire. It appears that he was appointed one of the counsellors of the province in 1702, in which office he probably remained during his life. He was also treasurer and recorder of the province. He was recorder at the time (Nov. 4, 1703,) when Lieut. Gov. Usher "produced to the council an order from Whitehall that certain records should be deposited with the secretary, and he refused to deliver them without an act of the general assembly authorizing him so to do." See Belknap, vol. 1, p. 315. Mr. Penhallow married Mary Cutts, a daughter of President Cutts. He died at Portsmouth, November 27, 1726.

Philosophical.

FOR THE LITERARY JOURNAL.

ON THE CAUSES OF EARTHQUAKES.

Ever since the remotest period, to which history extends, the earth has been at distant periods and in various countries subject to the shocks of earthquakes. We could not therefore expect, that they should escape the attention of philosophers, to whom every object in nature, from the planetary worlds, which roll around us, to the minutest insect, has furnished subjects for investigation. Accordingly ever since the invention of letters we meet with speculations upon these subjects, vague and indefinite amongst the ancients, as were all their notions upon natural philosophy, and scarcely more probable and consistent amongst the moderns. Epicurus was the first of the philosophers of antiquity, who formed a theory upon this subject. He attributed the motion of the earth to the force of vapors which were liberated below its surface. What his precise mean-

ing was, it is impossible at this distance of time to ascertain. That he approximated to the modern theory of steam, is rendered improbable by the circumstance of the ancients leaving nothing to indicate, that they were acquainted with the elastic force of that fluid. He probably partook of the ignorance of his age and country upon this subject with too little ingenuousness to confess it. The speculations of Anaxagoras were still more fanciful. He supposed various extensive caverns to exist within the earth, in which floated clouds similar to those, which pervade our own atmosphere. Electrical discharges from these clouds produced the phenomena of earthquakes. It was not until later times, that the opinions of the learned assumed a tangible shape. Two opinions have been matured by modern ingenuity. The first is, that the discharge of the electric fluid occasions the vibrations and other terrific appearances of earthquakes. But firstly, this will not account for the alternate sinking and rising of extensive portions of the earth. Nor secondly, can we explain the accumulation of so great quantities of this subtle and elastic fluid, which the best non-conductors in nature can confine but a short period, as the surface of the globe, as far at least as human observation extends, abounds with water and other conducting substances. A small shock of an earthquake is frequently followed by one of greater power. Why does the same body, which admitted the passage of the first, oppose the progress of the second, which possesses greater strength and should be able to permeate a greater extent of a non-conducting substance? Fireballs, the Aurora-Borealis and other appearances, supposed to be electrical, give the only plausibility, which it possesses to this theory. But as every change of temperature and every production of vapor excites electricity, it should be regarded rather as the effect than the cause of earthquakes. When the genius of Franklin had first drawn from the clouds this liquid fire, resort was had to its mysterious influence to explain every difficult operation in nature, and to cure every disease, to which human nature is liable.

The second hypothesis, and that which in modern times has found most advocates, attributes earthquakes to the elastic force of steam. There are some difficulties yet to be encountered by the champions of those opinions. The area over which the effects of these convulsions of nature have often extended has been from 100 to 600 miles, but the focus of their injurious effects has usually been confined to 50. The great earthquake, which was felt in Asia Minor in the year 17, extended its destructive ravages over an area, whose

diameter was 300 miles. Its effects were seen in the annihilation of twelve flourishing cities, one of which was the celebrated Ephesus. In some cases, the mere jar and vibration of the earth may produce some of the effects of earthquakes. But when it overwhelms cities and leaves only lakes of putrid water in their place, when vast gulfs, open belching forth flames and water, and swallowing up whatever is on its surface, we must suppose some force immediately below, which is sufficient to move the solid contents of the superincumbent earth. In the earthquakes of Calabria, Lisbon and Puzzuoli an area was affected, whose diameter was equal to 50 miles. Here, supposing the force to have acted perpendicularly and also at an angle of 45° from a perpendicular, the body of earth moved would be immense. We cannot suppose with Mallet, that it would act at a greater angle, for the mechanical disadvantage would be too great in affecting so solid and ponderous a substance as the crust of the globe. Supposing it to act at an angle of 45° it must move $50 \times 50 \times .7854 \times 50 = 98170\frac{1}{2}$ solid square miles of earth:—a body, upon which few forces would produce the least impression. It is likewise a well known fact, that the evaporation of water is governed by the pressure of the atmosphere, so that it may be heated to 500° Fahrenheit without boiling. The weight of the atmosphere is increased 50 miles below the surface of the earth by two causes, viz. by the increased force of gravity, and by the greater height of the atmosphere.

By these two causes the weight of the air at the proposed depth must be more than trebled, as the height of the atmosphere is found by astronomical calculations to be 43 miles; and gravitation increases as the squares of the distances from the centre of the earth, (if we suppose the earth above not to exert any action, as it would not sensibly vary the result.) According to this calculation, water at that depth would boil only at 636° Fahrenheit. Steam, at the temperature of 212° exerts a force of lbs. 14 10.6 oz. on the square inch, and supposing, as nearly agrees with the fact, that it will raise two additional pounds for every additional five degrees of heat, at 636° it will raise 180 lbs. This, though an immense force, yet as it would act but momentarily, is insufficient for the purpose. The quantity of inflammable materials must also, according to this theory, be immense. It requires 6 lbs. of New-Castle coal to raise seven pounds of water from 62° to 212° when it acts most advantageously, viz. from below. But in the case of earth-

quakes, the heat must act downwards, and half its effect will be lost. Consequently it will require 12 pounds of coal to raise 7 pounds of water to steam. But in this case, as was before shewn, the water is to be raised to 636° , and will therefore require 36 pounds of coal, *i. e.* each pound of water will require 6 pounds of coal! This theory of steam does not satisfactorily account for the flames, which sometimes appear through crevices opened in the earth on such occasions. But the principal difficulty its advocates must encounter, is to account for raising such quantities of water into vapor, under such a pressure. Whence is the fuel derived, which supplies heat for such a constant evaporation? It is to be recollected, that the shocks of earthquakes have been felt in an uninterrupted succession for weeks and even months.

If we were to suppose sulphur to be set on fire by the same means, that volcanoes, near which they principally occur, are put into operation, most of these difficulties will be obviated. The sulphur would unite with the oxygen of the atmosphere, which would be more abundant on account of the superior density of the air. At the same time great quantities of nitrogen would be liberated, which would endeavor to ascend on account of its inferior specific gravity. The atmosphere, when so condensed, would be able to support great quantities of aqueous vapour, which, when decomposed, would unite its oxygen to the sulphur, and the hydrogen would be liberated. This would aid by its combustion as well as its expansive force. Thus would be produced sulphureous acid and hydrogen, the expansive force of the first of which is much greater than that of steam. To the production of these, the weight of the atmosphere would present no obstacle. This agrees with the fact well known among geologists, that native sulphur is found principally in the vicinity of volcanic and secondary countries, where likewise earthquakes principally occur. In confirmation of this opinion, in the time of the greatest shocks, flames have been seen issuing from the earth, resembling, in the whiteness of their color and in other respects, the appearance of burning hydrogen. This is analogous to the opinion of the ancients, which seems to have given place too easily to the vanity and presumption of modern ingenuity. It should put to the blush even the hardened face of presumptuous innovators, to observe how the hand of time will test the sandy foundations of superficial hypotheses—to see that genius, which scarcely dared to shew its indignant head before the scorn and con-

tempt of its contemporaries, receiving from the applause of posterity the meed of its noble exertions, and to observe what were once regarded as antiquated errors, resuming the proud station of truth in the mind of the philosopher. On this subject, as in most others, have ignorance and fanciful speculation erected their visionary fabrics; for the most inattentive of mankind could not but sometimes reflect on phenomena so destructive and terrific in their consequences, and the most timid could not fear, that their errors would be detected on a subject so inscrutably mysterious. But these redundant seeds of conjecture and theory, have produced only an abundant harvest of glaring misapprehensions. The only practical use, proposed to be drawn from these crude speculations, was the attempt of some of the philosophers of antiquity, to obviate the effects of earthquakes by digging deep wells to allow the confined vapors to escape. In modern times, likewise, an instrument has been contrived to ascertain the violence and direction of the shocks. This consisted simply of a graduated phial, whose inside was coated with a light powder. When partly filled with a liquid and fixed in the earth, every vibration of the earth, by giving a motion to the liquid, would rub off part of the powder, and communicate the required information. A goldsmith of Naples, improving upon this idea, suspended a pendulum so as to move easily in every direction. At the bottom of the pendulum a pencil was pressed gently by a spring against a sheet of paper laying horizontally. He thus ascertained, not only the comparative violence, but the direction of the vibratory motions. O.

Since the discovery of the New World, our English gardens have produced 2345 varieties of trees and plants from America, and upwards of 1700 from the Cape of Good Hope, in addition to many thousands which have been brought from China, the East Indies, New Holland, various parts of Africa, Asia and Europe: until the list of plants now cultivated in this country exceeds 120,000 varieties.

London Paper.

Dodart, in a communication to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, computed that an elm, every year, at a medium, produces 330,000 seeds; and therefore supposing it to live 110 years, 33 millions of seeds during its whole age. Fern is far more fertile in seeds. Hartstongue produces in a year a million of seeds. These seeds must have a use beyond continuing their species.

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.*

Wide o'er the wilderness of waves,
 Untracked by human peril,
 Our fathers roamed for peaceful graves,
 To deserts dark and sterile.
 Their dauntless hearts no meteor led,
 In terror, o'er the ocean ;
 From fortune and from fame they fled,
 To Heaven and its devotion.
 Fate cannot bind the high-born mind
 To bigot usurpation :
 They, who had left a world behind,
 Now gave that world a nation.

PAINE.

Though the adventurers who formed the humble colony first planted at Pascataqua were of different habits from the pilgrims who settled at Plymouth, and may not have imitated their examples, nor have been drawn into the close ties which mutual danger serves to create and strengthen,—there is still something interesting, to us at least, in the circumstances of their landing. The discovery of this continent had already freighted the four winds with exalted ideas of its extent and value, when the intrepid Smith, born with “a roving and romantic genius, and delighting in extravagant and daring actions,”† directed his attention to North-America. He had explored the coast of Virginia, been a captive among the natives, and a father of the infant colony,—by his courage intimidating, or by his address controlling the fancies of the Indians ; and now extended his enterprises still farther north into unknown seas, ranging from east to west, and touching at the various islands stretching along the coast, as if to defend the newly discovered continent from the violence of the stormy Atlantic. Smith landed upon the islands formerly called by his name, but at present known as the Isles of Shoals.‡ To the country east of Virginia he gave the name of *New-England*. New-Hamp-

* See article on this subject, p. 51.

† Belknap.

‡ Smith discovered these islands in 1614. It is not known for what reason their name was altered. In the deed of the Indian sagamores to John Wheelwright in 1629, “the Isles of Shoals, so called by the English,” are included.

shire was called *Laconia*. There are found in most countries, men hardy enough to brave the rigors of the ocean and inclement seasons, for the prospect of gain, or of personal liberty. A howling wilderness, though its front may inspire awe, cannot subdue the hopes of the adventurer. He fancies mines of wealth concealed in the recesses of the country—golden dreams cheer his midnight slumbers, and inspirit his hours of wakefulness. Or on the other hand, the oppressed may court the dangers of the deep, can they but afford a refuge from the soul-sickening scourges of religious tyranny. While most of the settlers of New-England had one of these objects in view, it is not difficult to perceive that the former had a powerful influence with the early inhabitants of New-Hampshire. A few humble fishermen from London were our common fathers. Cheered alike with the prospect of accumulating wealth, and tasting its enjoyments, they pitched their tents at *Little Harbor* on the *Pascataqua*, in 1623. The *season* of their landing is well known, and the *place*, with many circumstances attending it. IT IS NOW NEARLY TWO CENTURIES SINCE THE EVENT TOOK PLACE.

The celebration of this period, we are happy to announce, will take place at Portsmouth, on *Wednesday the twenty-eighth of May next*. Suitable arrangements will be made for a public procession, and religious exercises. An address will be delivered by NATHANIEL A. HAVEN, jun. Esq. of Portsmouth, a gentleman whose taste, and knowledge of the antiquities of the state, are well known. A Poem will be delivered by OLIVER W. B. PEABODY, Esq. of Exeter.

The following interesting letter from one of the first antiquaries of New-England, was addressed to Mr. Haven, in answer to some inquiries respecting the date of the landing at Little Harbor.

“As to the date of the first landing at Little Harbor for permanent settlement, an *approximation* to the truth is all that can be obtained now. No glories blaze round the bark of the earliest dwellers at Pascataquack: the *May-flower* is fragrant for Plimouth: the *Arbella* characterizes the chivalry of the Massachusetts: but the humble colony of Little

Harbor came over in an unknown bottom, and their descendants must look to the *conduct*, and not the *carriage* of their fathers.

"The most laborious of all antiquaries in New-England in 1736 could give no *precise* date; and no discovery of documents since has made definite the generality of 1 Prince Ann. 133, 134. You observe he quotes H. and you will find his authority in Hubbard 105 and 214. Unhappily, our recent inquiries detract much from the weight of Hubbard, unless when he quotes Winthrop or Morton; and he is never to be received as *original* authority, except in the meagre and trifling occurrences related subsequent to 1649. You see in the first passage (page 105) he says Tomson "removed down into the Massachusetts Bay within a year after" 1623. Now, his cotemporary Gov. Bradford, 1 Prince 161, mentions his living at Pascataquack 1626; and I *suppose* he came down, and took that beautiful island in our harbor, ever since called by his name. But another authority of Prince, *in loco*, is W. See Winslow in viii. Hist. Coll. 276. Now Winslow is the very man who ought to tell us the place, hour, and ship, *to* which, *in* which, and *by* which, your Planters came. Unfortunately here he is not so particular, as he commonly is about Plimouth, and we must resort to conjecture. He says "that spring begun a plantation 25 leagues N. E. from us" at Pascataquack. Now I believe '*spring*' must have a liberal construction. No English ship is mentioned as coming upon our coast (fishing vessels always out of the question) before that remarkable case in 1 Prince 137 from Gov. Bradford.* The *admiral* West (as he is called) arriving at Plimouth about the *end of June*, had probably landed your Tomson and the two Hiltons, late in May, or early in June. In July,† Standish came up from Pascataquack, whither he went to buy provisions (probably brought by the

[*NOTE, from Prince. "June e. Arrives a Ship with Capt. Francis West who has a Commission to be Admiral of New-England to restrain such ships as come to Fish and Trade without License from the New-England Council, for which they should Pay a round sum of Money: tell us they spake with a Ship at sea and were aboard her, having sundry passengers, bound for this Plantation, but lost her Mast in a Storm which quickly follow'd,—wonder she is not arriv'd and fear some Mis-carriage which fills us with Trouble. But Mr. West, finding the Fishermen stubborn Fellows and too strong for Him, sails for Virginia; and their Owners Complaining to the Parliament, procure an order that Fishing should be Free." Prince's Ann. vol. i. p. 137.]

[†This is according to Prince, Ann. vol. i. p. 138, but Winslow places this fact under the date of September.]

ship whichever she was that brought the *cunabula* of Little Harbor) and Tomson came with him to Plimouth. You must work hard to get *near* the date, but in Prince it may be approached. So, in my judgment, you should look to the *nameless* bark of West for your passage over the billows, and take the *pleasantest day in the year for your landing.*"

—o—

It is well known, that the two Hiltons, who made a stand at Dover neck, above Portsmouth, arrived early in 1623. Edward is supposed to have come directly from England. William was an early settler at Plymouth. A writer in the *Old Colony Memorial* says that William Hilton had an allotment of one acre with those who arrived in the *Fortune* in November, 1621. It appears, however, that Marie Hilton had a share with those who arrived in the *May-Flower*; and from the following letter, which is found in Hazard's *Historical Collections*, it would seem that William must have been at Plymouth some time before the arrival of the *Fortune*.

*A Letter from New-Plimoth.**

[Smitte's *New-England Trials*, Sind. 1622.]

Louing Cousin, at our arriual at New-Plimoth in New-England, we found all our Friends and Planters in good Health, though they were left sicke, and weake, with very small meanes—the Indians round about us peaceable and friendly—the Country very pleasant and temperate, yeelding naturally of itself great store of Fruites; as Vines of diuers sorts in great abundance: there is likewise Walnuts, Chesnuts, Small Nuts, and plums, with much Variety of Flowers, Rootes, and Herbes, no lesse pleasant than wholesome and profitable: no place hath more Gooseberries and Strawberries, nor better;—Timber of all Sorts you haue in England, doth cover the Land, that affoords beasts of diuers sorts; and great Flocks of Turkies, Quailes, Pigeons, and Partridges: many great Lakes abounding with Fish, Fowle, Beavers, and Otters. The Sea affoords vs as great Plenty of all excellent Sorts of Sea-fish, as the Riuers and Iles doth varietie of Wilde Fowle of most vsefull sorts. Mines we find to our thinking, but neither the goodness nor Qualitie we know. Better Grain cannot be than the Indian-

* There is no date to this letter, but the vessel by which it was sent, left New-England the beginning of April, 1621.

Corne, if we will plant it vpon as good ground as a man need desire.—Wee are all Freeholders : the Rent-Day doth not trouble vs ; and all those good Blessings we haue, of which and what we list in their Seasons, for taking. Our Companie are for most Part very religious honest People : the Word of God sincerely taught vs every Sabbath ; so that I know not any thing a contented mind can here want. I desire your friendly care to send my Wife and Children to me where I wish all the Friends I have in England, and so I rest,

Your loving Kinsman,

WILLIAM HILTON.

Literary Notices.

—o—

American Biography.—Proposals have been issued at Philadelphia for the publication of a *Historical Dictionary of Eminent Americans*, by ROBERT WALSH, jun. It will be comprised in two octavo volumes of about 500 pages each. We have as yet no good works in American Biography ; but hope the talents and industry of Mr. Walsh will remedy the deficiency. The works of Elliot and Allen are indeed useful ; but in many respects incomplete. The *Biographical Dictionary* of Mr. Rogers of Penn. is the best we have yet seen, and we are glad to perceive that a new edition of the work is in preparation for the press.

"*The Loves of the Angels*," a poem, by THOMAS MOORE, is published in this country. A high-sounding title may have induced many persons to read the book ; but few will arise without the impression, that there is something too earthly in the "loves" of these "angels," to be of celestial origin ; and that they are not of those superior human beings,

— "whose beauty wants
But the adornment of bright wings,
To look like heaven's inhabitants."

"*Werner—a tragedy*," by Lord Byron, has been re-published at Philadelphia.

A new edition of *Henry's Chemistry*, with notes by Professor Silliman, is preparing at Hartford, Conn.

Mr. Nathan Whiting of New-Haven, Conn. has in the press, A GAZETTEER OF THE UNITED STATES, abridged from Morse's late Universal Gazetteer : containing a General Description of the United States, and particular descriptions

of the several states and territories in the Union—of the Counties and principal Cities, Towns, Villages, Lakes, Rivers, Harbors, Indian Tribes, Mission Stations, &c. &c. in the United States. To be illustrated by a Map; on which will be marked the great roads through the states,—and tables of distances,—latitudes and longitudes of places,—and other useful statistical tables. By Rev. JEDIDIAH MORSE, D. D. and Sons. The work will be issued in a small duodecimo volume of about 300 pages, and will contain an elegant map 11 by 18 inches, printed on durable bank-post paper.

History of New-Netherland.—The Rev. Dr. Bassett, of Bushwick, (L. I.) has completed a translation of a Topographical and Natural History of New-Netherland, from the original Dutch of Dr. *Adrian Van Der Donk*, and first published in Amsterdam, in 1655. This work, which comprehends a particular account of the nature, quality, situation and productions of that country, together with a view of the manners and customs of the Aborigines, the Natural History of the Beaver, and a great variety of curious and interesting matter, is now ready for the press, and will be published by subscription. The translator has also added an appendix, consisting of such parts of De Laet's and Lambaechter's History, as he has judged necessary. The work is warmly recommended by the New-York Historical Society; and also by Gov. Clinton, to whose inspection the MS. has been submitted.

TEMPLAR'S CHART.—A work with this title has been recently published by R. W. Jeremy L. Cross, G. L. New-Haven, Conn. It is said to be a work of merit, promising great benefit to the masonic fraternity. Mr. Cross, it will be recollected, was the author of the *Masonic Chart*, now so generally used and approved among masons.

Stephen Dodge, New-Haven, proposes to publish a complete edition of the writings of the late President Edwards.

Original History.—Proposals have been issued for printing by subscription a work, to be entitled "Notes on the settlement and Indian Wars of the western parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia;" by Dr. *Joseph Doddridge*. The work will be at least a curious one, and much more than curious to all the descendants and successors of the early settlers of that part of our country.

APPENDIX.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN MARCH.

EUROPE.

That WAR now exists between France and Spain, the last intelligence from Europe renders next to certain. The declarations of Louis the 13th in his Speech to the Chamber of Deputies—that he has little hope of preserving peace with Spain—that he has recalled his Minister from Madrid, and that 100,000 troops are ready to march against that country, when viewed in connexion with the hostile attitude assumed by Spain and by the allies of France, seem to furnish conclusive evidence that an appeal to arms was inevitable. The next arrival will probably bring us some intelligence respecting the operations of the belligerent forces.

The accounts of the operations of the contending factions in Spain, are as confused and contradictory as ever. The "Army of the faith," however, we suspect, was on its last legs.

The Russian army in Poland is 100,000 strong.

A meeting was held in London, Dec. 16, to raise donations for the relief of the distressed sufferers from the earthquakes in Syria. A letter from the Consul General at Constantinople, estimates the number of lives lost by those earthquakes, at 30,000.

The accounts of the operations of the Greeks and Turks, are but few. The successes of the former, however, have continued. The account of the second destruction of the Turkish ships, by the Greek fire ships is confirmed. As a reward for those Turkish officers who escaped, the Grand Seignor ordered their heads to be taken off.

The reports by the last arrival, of a revolution having taken place in the government at Constantinople, are also amply confirmed. Haleb Effendi, the bloody enemy of the Greeks, was at first banished, and afterwards followed and beheaded. A battalion of troops has been raised in Germany, who were on their way to join the Greeks. One hundred and twenty Greeks had also passed through Silesia to join their countrymen.

The Slave Trade.—In consequence of a memoir presented to the Congress of Verona, by the philanthropist Allan, against the Slave Trade, and his eloquent addresses, the great Powers, with the single exception of France, have adopted very vigorous measures on the subject. *Russia, England, Prussia and Austria have agreed that the Commerce in Slaves ought to be assimilated with the crime of Piracy; and have therefore made it punishable with death.*

INDIA.

Severe and melancholy losses were sustained in India by violent gales of wind, heavy rains, and extensive inundations, in September last. The river Nerbudd rose 30 feet above its ordinary level in 36 hours, and inundated a region of two hundred miles in extent—desolating whole villages, and sweeping to destruction, human beings, cattle, and the products of the earth. At Surat, more than a thousand houses were destroyed, and many lives of men and animals lost. In Bombay, two British ships were wrecked. By the overflow of the Taptee more than 1500

dwellings were prostrated at Boor-hahper, and many more damaged; and the fort and small town of Annanair, with the garrison and inhabitants, swept away. The whole loss was estimated at between a million and a million and a half of rupees. A subscription of 80,000 or 90,000 rupees had been made at Calcutta for the relief of the sufferers in Ireland.

FIRE IN CANTON.

The greatest conflagration of Buildings probably that ever was known at one fire, took place at Canton on the night of the 1st of Nov. when between 10 and 12,000 were destroyed, including a great number of Manufacturing Establishments, and nearly all the Foreign Factories.—An immense amount of Teas and Dry Goods were burned. The houses at Canton are built of bamboo.—They are one story high, and contiguous, and the lanes or streets, are only a few feet wide. Such buildings extend as far as the sight can reach.—The Factories were two or three stories high, built of bricks, and finished in the European style.—It is supposed that upwards of 60,000 persons were rendered houseless by the calamity—and as there is not much humanity or ability among the Chinese, it is supposed they could not find shelter or support any where.

RECENT EARTHQUAKES.

A terrible earthquake took place at Valparaiso, on the 18th December, 1822. It occurred between 10 and eleven o'clock, and the first shock, which was probably of two or three minutes duration, laid the greater part of Valparaiso in ruins, and spread consternation and terror every where about. Several other heavy shocks followed, but not to be compared with the first, or to do much injury. They continued very frequent through the night, and every one fled to the hills and the shipping for safety. Many lives were lost

by the fall of buildings, but the number has not yet been ascertained; and nearly 300 are known to have perished, and others are missing; many too were wounded severely, among whom was the Supreme Director, who was down at that time from the city, and who very narrowly escaped while the governor's palace was trembling over his head. This building is so entirely in ruins that it will be required to rebuild it from the foundation. The churches are, some of them levelled to the ground, and the others so rent and shattered as to ruin them. The custom house buildings are injured very much, and in short there is scarce a building here which has not received more or less damage. Indeed there are not a dozen houses in the place at this time that would be considered habitable with safety and comfort. Several light shocks have been felt every day and night since the first, and fears are entertained that something more terrible is to follow.

Earthquakes are frequent in this country, and there is never a year without them; but they are not often very heavy, and it is nearly a century since they have experienced one so dreadful as at this time. Some of the neighboring towns and villages are entirely ruined, and there was the most painful apprehension, respecting the fate of the capital (Santiago), but fortunately that city has escaped with comparative trifling injury. If it had been felt as severely there as in this place, it must have put a stop to business for a considerable time to come. As it is, there has been a total suspension for a week past; and it had been resumed only a day or two before, after waiting two months for the commercial *Reglamento*. On the 18th we had been removing to another building and the goods, furniture, &c. were piled up loose and promiscuously about the room where we slept, not having time to stow them

away; we were in bed before the shock came on, and the lights were all extinguished; here we were on a second floor, high from the street, and unacquainted with the stairs and passage out. I will not attempt to describe the horror of the moments of the earthquake, the noise was like a long loud peal of thunder, the floor of bricks under us rattled, the timbers over our heads cracked, lime and dirt from the mud walls almost suffocated us, while the house rolled and trembled like a ship in a heavy short sea.

Nearly the whole population are now scattered about the hills round the port, in tents, and it is said that most of the inhabitants of Santiago have left their houses and gone into the fields.—The English families as also our Consul's have all embarked on board the shipping not more for safety than because their dwellings are unfit to inhabit.—*Letter from Chili.*

On the 1st Dec. the city of Grenada [Nicaragua] was visited by a tremendous earthquake, which cracked the walls of most of the houses, threw down many of the marble crosses before the churches and spread great consternation among the inhabitants. Two or three shocks were felt every day for a week. On the 20th, another severe shock was felt, and the mountains in the vicinity were split near the top by the concussion.

In the Island of Java, on the 16th Nov. last, a tremendous Volcano poured forth stones and lava from a mountain situated in the Beaujeau Regencies about 200 miles from Batavia. Five thousand natives were buried by the stones and ashes. Three hundred had been found most dreadfully burnt, and but faint hopes were entertained of the recovery of most of them. This place was one of the most beautiful and highly cultivated sections of the interior of this rich

island. Coffee, and rice grew luxuriantly and plentifully there.

CANADA.

Considerable agitation continues in Canada, on the subject of the proposed Union of the two Provinces—and will exist till the question is definitively settled, and perhaps give rise to parties that may prevent perfect harmony afterwards. Some writers represent the question as a contest between the Roman Catholics and others; the former opposing the Union, as calculated to destroy their influence.

UNITED STATES.

Congress adjourned on Monday the 3d day of March. Much business of a private or local nature has been transacted. The most important measures adopted are those relating to the suppression of piracy and the slave trade, for the repairs of the Cumberland road, and for carrying into effect the national treaties and contracts. Little else of national importance has been transacted; but it is not to be inferred that the public good would have been promoted had more been done. Too much legislation is a great evil—more acting and less talking would be beneficial to the great interests of the country. It is mentioned in the National Intelligencer, that not one out of two hundred and thirty-five members of Congress has died or even been dangerously ill during the session.

Public Buildings in Washington.—The expenditures on these buildings, during the last seven months of 1822, amounted to \$116,795 72: of which \$113,050 74 was expended on the centre of the Capitol, \$2974 73 on the President's house and culvert, and \$780 24 on the Capitol square.

Tennessee.—In this state is one of the most flourishing mission stations among the Indians. The principal seat of the mission is call-

ed *Brainerd*, after the devoted missionary, who, a century ago, anticipated the spirit which now prevails, and labored alone but successfully, for the salvation of the Indians. *Brainerd* is about 30 miles E. from the N. W. corner of Georgia, two miles within the limits of Tennessee on the W. side of Chickamaugah creek, which empties into Tennessee river. The Indian nations or tribes in the United States, it will be recollected, are not subject to our government, have no share in its administration and do not contribute to its support. They have independent governments of their own, administered by kings or chiefs; or by councils, which are assemblies of chiefs. They have lands reserved to them by treaties. These tracts may lie within the nominal bounds of particular states of the union, but the fee simple is in the Indians, and cannot be taken from them without their consent in treaty with the general government. The Cherokees, among whom this station is established, have a reservation, the greatest length of which is about 250 miles and the greatest breadth 130 miles, comprising portions of four states, viz. North-Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee. The first agent of the Cherokee mission was Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, in 1817. More than a year ago there were in the school at *Brainerd*, 57 boys, and 30 girls, besides 15 others, absent from various causes.

Pennsylvania.—It is stated that 9528 children, in four years, have partaken the benefits of the public schools of this state, formed on the Lancasterian model.

At Washington, *Pep.* Feb. 21, Wm. Crawford, an old man, was executed for the murder of a son. He contended that he was no murderer—that he was worth \$40,000, which they wished to rob him of—that if he was worth 100,000, he would bet a guinea his children

would have robbed him of the whole, and then brought him to an ignominious death—that he wished to have his execution over, and not keep Tommy Robertson waiting, with his waggon to carry his body home, that his neighbors might see him once more. To his priest he said, “you are no father confessor, mind your own business.”—To the sheriff, when fixing the noose, he said, “Sir, you are choaking me.”

New-Hampshire.—Hon. LEVI WOODBURY, one of the justices of the Superior Court, is elected Governor of this state, by probably a greater majority than at any contested election for many years. The third of April is to be observed as a Fast in this State.

MISCELLANIES.

The present rank of the States of the Union as regards foreign Commerce is as follows—New-York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maine, Maryland, S. Carolina, R. Island, Louisiana, N. Carolina, Connecticut, Virginia, Georgia, District of Columbia, (not a State,) N. Hampshire, Mississippi, Delaware, N. Jersey, Vermont. The whole tonnage of Am. Vessels, which entered the ports of the U. States in the year ending Sept. 30, 1822, was 787,961, cleared 813,748—Foreign tonnage, entered 100,541, cleared, 97,490.

The following anecdote, taken from the “*Boston Evening Post*,” of March 31st, 1766, a thorough administration paper, shows how great was the excitement among the people at that period, against every one who offered any countenance to the odious *stamp act*.

“We hear that a person in a neighbouring government, lately refused to pay a debt for which he was attached, because the writ was not stamped. The populace immediately, on hearing thereof, assembled, and having the fellow before them, passed the three following votes and resolve, viz.—

1. That this man is not a christian.
 2. That he ought to be of some religion. Therefore—3. Voted, That he be a Jew. Whereupon Resolved, that he be circumcised. This resolution so terrified the poor creature, that he begged forgiveness for his imprudence, and promised to behave better for the future. He was then permitted to make a confession of his faith, upon which his sentence was remitted, and he discharged.

In October, 1822, the whole number of Steam Boats in Great Britain, was one hundred and forty-one. Their tonnage amounted to 16,188 tons; and the power of their Engines equalled that of 4,727 London dray horses.

There are now between three and four hundred Steam Boats in the United States. The tonnage of those on the waters of the Mississippi alone amounts to 13,254 tons.

Mrs. Morris, the widow of Governor Morris, has addressed a letter to the editor of the Petersburg Intelligencer, in which she declares, "that Mr. Morris was not the author of the Newburgh Letters," written in 1783; "that the calumny is improbable and absurd, but that in N. York, it will nevertheless have great weight; a state, in which private vice is encouraged by the passions of the public, and where cowardice dares not aim at any victims but the helpless and unprotected."

Wedding Presents.—In the Swedish province of Dalecarlia, it is customary for young females on the wedding day, to present each of the guests with a pair of stockings or gloves of their own knitting. The custom is held so sacred that weddings are frequently deferred because the requisite quantity of gloves is not finished. [If this custom were adopted in our country, few modern fine ladies would get married.]

In a village where a farm was a much better thing than a vicar-

age, the incumbent took uncommon pains to please his parishioners; but this task was like that of the man, the boy, and the ass. After a time, however, by accommodating their different humors, he succeeded better; though to please all was impossible. Returning one Sunday from Church, he was accosted by an opulent farmer, who, though he lived in a profuse style, was not a whit more polished in his deportment or understanding than his ploughman. "Well, Doctor," said he, "yow be gwain on pratty well now; but why duont ya gi's now and tan a scrap o' Latin?" "Why," said the Vicar, "if I had thought it had been your wish, I should have had no objection but for one thing—I am afraid you would not understand it." "That," said the other, "is n'out to you; an' we do pay for the best, we o't to ha' the best."

J. Wilson, better known as "walking Wilson," commenced trading at New-Orleans in the spring of 1800; completed his forty-eighth voyage during the last summer, averaging nearly two and a half trips per season; and during that period has travelled by land and water one hundred and twenty-eight thousand miles, in the prosecution of that trade, which will appear from the following exhibit:

48 trips to New-Orleans,	
1600 miles	76,800
Walked twenty trips	
through the wilderness re-	
turning, 8000 each,	16,000
12 do. on horseback do	9,600
16 do. in steam-boats,	
1600 do.	25,600
	<hr/>
	122,000

Wilson has more than once beaten the United States' mail whilst walking; man never could keep side and side with him; has never been overtaken by man on foot or horseback; is about forty years of age; possesses a constitution apparently unimpaired; has amassed

a portion of "earthly goods," and is now in the "full tide of successful experiment," making his forty-ninth trip. Wilson is a native of Mason county, Ky.—*Maysville Eagle*.

The Emperors.—While the Emperor of Austria was passing through the Tyrol, an incident occurred which proves that in one respect at least, he is capable of achieving more than his puissant brother of the north, whenever they both aim at the same object. The practice of firing at a mark is a national amusement among the Tyrolese, and some military officers at Insdruck got up a fete of this description in honor of their sovereign. A target painted with circular lines of black and white, was provided for the purpose, and a great concourse of spectators being assembled, several officers entered the list as marksmen. Many of them distinguished themselves as good shots, others were less successful. The Emperor of Russia was pleased with the amusement and resolved to try whether he had not a keener eye and more steady hand than those who had already made the essay. Never was an attempt more luckless—never was chagrin more visible. His Imperial Majesty fired several shots, but without once touching the target; and at last, to use a homely phrase, he gave it up as a bad job, evidently embarrassed at having come off with so little eclat. The Emperor Francis, tempted by the example of his august ally, next stood forth to make trial. His success was complete. His first shot struck within an inch of the circle—his second within less than half an inch—and at the third shot he lodged his ball in the very centre of the mark. William Tell, who deprived his imperial ancestor of Switzerland, could not have done more.

Extraordinary Character. There is at present living, at a place call-

ed Glenarie, six miles from Inverary, a person of the name of John Monro, at the advanced age of 95, who makes a point of walking daily, for recreation, the six miles betwixt his residence and Inverary, or the top of Tuhich-hill, which is very steep and distant about 2 miles. Should the rain pour in torrents, so much the better, and with greater pleasure does he perambulate the summit of the hill for hours in the midst of the storm. Whether it is natural to this man, or whether it is the effect of habit, cannot be said, but it is well known he cannot endure to remain any length of time with his body in a dry state. During the summer, and when the weather is dry, he regularly pays a daily visit to the river Arca, and plunges himself headlong in, with his clothes on; and should they get perfectly dry early in the day, so irksome and disagreeable does his situation become, that like a fish out of water, he finds it necessary to repeat the luxury. He delights in rainy weather, and when the "sky lowers, and the clouds threaten," and other men seek the "bield or ingle side," then is the time that this "man of habits" chooses for enjoying his natural element in the highest perfection. He never bends his way homewards till he is completely drenched; and, on these occasions, that a drop may not be lost, his bonnet is carried in his hand, and his head left bare to the pattering of the wind and rain. He at present enjoys excellent health; and notwithstanding his habits, he has been wonderfully fortunate in escaping colds, a complaint very common in this moist climate—but when he is attacked, whether in summer or winter, his mode of cure is not more singular than specific.—Instead of indulging in the ardent sweating potions so highly extolled among the gossips of his country, he repairs to his fa-

vorite element, the pure streams of the Arca, and takes one of his usual headlong dips, with his clothes on. He then walks about for a few miles till they become dry, when the plan pursued never fails to check the progress of his disorder. In other respects the writer has never heard any thing singular regarding his manner of habits.

Junot.—During the erection of one of the first batteries which Napoleon, on his arrival at Toulon, directed against the English, he asked whether there was a Serjeant or Corporal present who could write? A man advanced from the ranks and wrote to his dictation on the epaulement. The note was scarcely ended, when a

cannon ball, which had been fired in the direction of the battery, fell near the spot, and the paper was immediately covered by the loose earth thrown up by the ball. "Well," said the writer, "I shall have no need of sand." This remark, together with the coolness with which it was made, fixed the attention of Napoleon, and made the fortune of the Serjeant. This man was Junot, afterwards Duke of Abrantes.

The annual produce of grain throughout Great Britain is reckoned at fifty millions of quarters; out of those, five millions are paid in tithes; eight millions are expended in seed; twenty-two millions remain to the farmers, and fifteen millions for market.

MONTHLY REGISTER OF DEATHS,

WITH CONCISE BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

At the Cherokee Agency, Jan. 23, Col. **RETURN JONATHAN MEIGS**. He was one of the distinguished heroes of the American revolution. Immediately after the battle of Lexington, he marched a company of light infantry, completely uniformed and equipped, which he had previously enlisted and organized for the environs of Boston. He was soon appointed a Major by the state of Connecticut, and marched with Arnold in his tedious and suffering expedition to Canada. In the bold enterprise of storming Quebec, he commanded a battalion; and, after penetrating within the walls of the city, was made prisoner, together with Captains Morgan and Dearborn, since become Generals, and well distinguished in American history. There is an interesting Journal of occurrences, kept by Major Meigs, from Sept. 9, 1775, to Jan. 1, 1776, published in the Coll. of Mass. Hist. Soc. Vol. II, second series, p. 227—247. In 1776, Major Meigs was exchanged and returned home; and the next year was appointed Colonel by general WASHINGTON. Besides the proof of his courage and other military accomplishments furnished at the storming of Quebec, his expedition to Long Island, in 1777, was one of the most brilliant and completely successful enterprises, that was achieved during the war. For this achievement, Congress directed a sword to be presented to him,

and passed a resolution "expressive of the high sense entertained of his merit, of the prudence, activity, and valor displayed by himself and his party in this expedition." He was with general WAYNE at the taking of Stony Point, in 1779; and is mentioned with honor by general WASHINGTON among those officers, "who conducted themselves with that coolness, bravery, and perseverance, that will ever ensure success." After the conclusion of the war, Col. Meigs was one of the first settlers of the wilderness, which has since become the state of Ohio. He drew up for the first emigrants a concise system of regulations, which were posted on a large oak standing near the confluence of Ohio and Muskingum rivers, from which the bark was cut off of sufficient space to attach the sheet, on which the regulations were written. "This venerable oak was, to the emigrants, more useful, and as frequently consulted, as the Oracles of ancient Delphos by its votaries." In Charlestown, S. C. Hon. WILLIAM W. VAN NESS, for fifteen years, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of New-York. He was distinguished for his strength of intellect, eminent literary attainments, uncommon powers of elocution, and for his private virtues. In New-Jersey, Hon. JOHN LAMBERT, 75, formerly a representative and senator in Congress from that State. In Washington City, Rev. Dr. Andrew

Hunter, 75, a Chaplain in the Navy of the United States. In Baltimore, Feb. 24, Samuel Brazer, jr. Esq. 38, Editor of the Baltimore Patriot, son of Samuel Brazer of Worcester, and formerly Editor of the National Ægis in that town. In Duxbury, Ms. Capt. Seth Bradford, 88, a descendant of Governor Bradford. In Francestown, March 3, Mr. JAMES WOODBURY, 85, a descendant from John Woodbury, one of the primitive settlers of *Naumkeak*, in 1626. [See 1 Prince Ann. 158.] At a very early period of his life, with characteristic bravery, he volunteered his services in the cause of his country; and in the year 1759, after having endured the hardships of a long campaign, at the age of 21 years, he was engaged under the command of general WOLFE in the battle on Abraham's plains. After this decisive battle, which, in effect extinguished the title of the French to any part of the Canadas, Mr. Woodbury returned to his friends, in his native town, Beverly, Ms. After having made several successful voyages at sea, he removed to Mont-Vernon, then a part of Amherst, and formed a permanent settlement, where, until within a few years, he resided and superintended the concerns of his valuable farm. His descendants were 195, viz. 9 children, 90 grandchildren, and 96 great-grandchildren, 172 of whom were living at the time of his death. In Malacca, India, in May last, Rev. Dr. Milne, a distinguished Missionary, and author of several learned works on the literature of China. In Tillypally, in the Island of Ceylon, Aug. 3, Rev. James Richards, an American Missionary. At Cheltenham, Eng. Jan. 26, EDWARD JENNER, L L D. F. R. S. 74, the illustrious discoverer of vaccination, and distinguished for his literary honors, both in this country and in Europe. He was an Honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences at Boston, and, in 1803, received from Harvard college the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. In May, 1808, he was elected an Honorary member of the New-Hampshire Medical Society, and, in 1812, a corresponding member of the Historical Society of Massachusetts. In London, CHARLES HUTTON, L L D. F. R. S., distinguished as a mathematician and author. In Paris, the Abbe SICARD, who originated the present mode of instructing the deaf and dumb.

LONGEVITY.—In London, Mrs. Sarah Wesley, 94, relict of Rev. Charles Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism.—In Dublin, Ireland, the Marquis

of Drogheda, 94.—In New-York, Mrs. Margaret Roach, 90.—In Bethlehem, N. Y. Mr. John Jackson, 99—descendants 178.—In Albemarle co. Va. Capt. William Smith, 96.—In Waterford, Me. Mr. Philip Hor, 90.—In Hardwick, Feb. 19, Mrs. Mercy Paige, 102.—In Bristol, Mrs. Abigail Munro, 90.—In Cambridgeport, Ms. Widow Martha Livermore, 93.—In West Cambridge, Ms. March 11, Mr. Jacob Emmons, 93.—In Sharon, Ms. Mrs. Elizabeth Curtis, 91, relict of the late Rev. Philip Curtis, of that place.—In Danvers, Ms. Widow Hannah Nourse, 92.

In New-Hampshire.—In Groton, Feb. 14, Widow Sarah Wheat, 93 yrs. 9 mo.—In Sullivan, Feb. 16, Deac. John Locke, 90.—In Antrim, Feb. 24, Hon. JOHN DUNCAN, for many years a Representative, and, in 1797, a Senator in the Legislature of this State.—In Pembroke, Feb. 26, Widow Hannah Parker, 97 yrs. 7 mo. 4 days.—In Weare, Mrs. Lydia Bean, 91.—In New-London, March 2, Widow Sarah Messer, 90.

In the town of Rochester, N. H. containing a population of 2471, there are now living 100 persons over 70 years of age. Of 25 persons, who died in 1822, one was 97, four were between 80 and 90; four between 70 and 80; and three between 60 and 70. In the town of Norwich, Con., there were living in Jan. 50 persons in their 70th year, 20 upwards of 80, and 10 upwards of 90—aggregate of ages 6000 years. Pop. of Norwich in 1820, 2983.

Bill of Mortality for Amherst, N. H., A. D. 1822.

Disease.	Age.	Total.
Cancer	64, years.	1
Paralysis	74. 83, 88,	3
Old age	83. 85. 72, 87, 97.	5
Consumption	60. 24' 24' 33. } 35. 52. 21' 29' }	8
Accidental	13.	1
Dysentery	43.	1
Intemperance	43.	1
Infantile diseases	5 w. 3' 2' 2'	4
Lethargy	45,	1
Unknown	60, 68,	2
Affection of the heart	48,	1
Lung Fever	2'	1
Lingering, in consequence of a fall in 1815	9.	1
		30

N. B. Where a period follows the age it denotes the *male* sex; a comma, the *female*; when in the usual place, at the bottom of the line, *married*; at the top of the line, *unmarried*. I. S.

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April 1, 1823.